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Dated: 7/20/04 Signature: Vickie Hoefft  
(Vickie Hoefft)

Docket No.: 254148006US  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Prestas et al.

Confirmation No.: 9813

Application No.: 09/545,436

Art Unit: 2665

Filed: April 7, 2000

Examiner: Volper, Thomas E.

For: CREATING VIRTUAL PRIVATE  
CONNECTIONS BETWEEN END POINTS  
ACROSS A SAN

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JUL 26 2004

Technology Center 2600

**AMENDMENT  
CORRESPONDING TO APPLICANTS'  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION  
(37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.114)**

Mail Stop RCE  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated April 20, 2004 (Paper No. 12), finally rejecting claims 1-26, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.